

IDDC Values and Principles

Approved by IDDC General Assembly in May 2018 ¹

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¹ This document draws heavily on the previous “IDDC Values, Beliefs and Principles” document.

1. IDDC's Purpose and Objectives

Article 4. ²

The object of the association is to promote inclusive development internationally, with a special focus on promoting the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by all disabled people living in economically poor communities in lower and middle-income countries. Inclusive development means respecting the full human rights of every person, acknowledging diversity, eradicating poverty and ensuring that all people are fully included and can actively participate in development processes and activities, regardless of their age, gender, disability, state of health. Ethnic origin or any other characteristic.

The objectives of IDDC are:

- To promote the inclusion of the disability dimension, as well as appropriate disability-specific approaches, in all development policy and practice.
- To improve the practice of the member organisations by collaborating and sharing experience about policy and practice.
- To support the exchange of information and knowledge about inclusive development, especially between people and organisations in economically poorer countries, by the wide distribution of information.

2. Values

The Values of IDDC are in accordance with and reflected in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. IDDC is committed to engage in the full realisation of the provisions of this Convention and to ensure that the Convention serves as a guiding framework for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (in order to realize the full inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities).

2.1. Human rights for all

We maintain as true

- a) the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and respect for their inherent dignity
- b) that persons with disabilities experience frequent violations and deprivations of their rights
- c) that the solutions to eliminating poverty and achieving development lie in a human rights based approach, ensuring participation, autonomy, accountability, non-discrimination, empowerment and are linked to human rights standards
- d) that we as IDDC and as individual organisations will work to ensure that all of our programmes, research, projects, advocacy, evaluations and other operations are implemented using a human rights based approach

² The text in the boxes is quoted from the Articles of Association in order to link it with the Constitution.

2.2. Inclusion and diversity

We affirm

- a) that inclusion is both a process and a goal
- b) that diversity is a richness from which we all benefit that needs to be nurtured and respected
- c) the necessity for fully accessible environments, information, systems and processes
- d) in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, that disability is an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others
- e) that we as IDDC and as individual organisations will acknowledge and respond to diversity and intersectionality in communities and within the disability community and work to ensure that no groups are left behind.

2.3. Sustainable development and social justice

We affirm

- a) that development is defined by its respect for, protection of, and fulfilment of, all human rights
- b) that poverty elimination and inclusion are preconditions for sustainable development
- c) that development must strive to promote equity, equality, justice and respect for diversity
- d) that IDDC and its members should strive to be a model of inclusion, transparency, social justice and respect for full human rights
- e) that resources need to be utilised creatively and efficiently

2.4. Partnership, participation and collaboration

We affirm

- a) that effective and efficient partnership grounded in human rights principles is essential in order to achieve inclusive development
- b) that we will work in partnership with persons with disabilities and their representative organisations and networks
- c) that collaboration should be transparent, flexible, and respectful to ensure mutual trust.
- d) that we as IDDC and as individual organisations will work with families, communities, and strategic stakeholders, such as inter-governmental organisations, mainstream civil society actors, donors, and governments, to promote respect for the human rights of persons with disabilities

3. Operating Principles

In relation to our internal processes, structures and communications IDDC will:

- a) Strive to be inclusive and transparent
- b) Promote the equal say of all members, actively including those at risk of being marginalised and reflecting IDDC's diversity of membership
- c) Encourage diversity and respect differences of opinion, belief and perspective
- d) Work towards consensus
- e) Continue to create ownership by and maximum participation of all IDDC members
- f) Share power and responsibility between members
- g) Share information with the membership on opportunities for collaboration, latest developments affecting the rights of persons with disabilities, and IDDC achievements and developments
- h) Use accessible environments, language, materials and processes
- i) Prioritise our tasks and utilise resources as efficiently as possible
- j) Encourage a critically aware and flexible environment, open to change and development
- k) Promote a spirit of trust and equality, and address any conflicts through peaceful mediation
- l) Actively promote the sharing of learning between organisations within IDDC, and promote wide external dissemination of this learning